

**APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATION OF LOCAL PURCHASE OF DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS (PDR)
PROGRAM- FY 2016**

Application Deadline: Friday, October 30, 2015

Locality:

Contact person:

Title:

Address:

Address 2:

City, State, Zip:

Phone:

Fax:

E-mail:

Date:

The following application is based on *A Model Purchase of Development Rights (PDR) Program for Virginia*, which was released by the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS) Farmland Preservation Task Force in November 2005. It is strongly suggested that applicants refer to the model PDR document while completing this application. Please visit www.vdacs.virginia.gov/preservation or call (804) 786-1906 to obtain a copy of this report.

To complete this application, please answer each of the questions listed below. Also, please submit any additional documentation to help support or clarify your answers. ***Question 1 is new for the fiscal year (FY) 2016 application round – all localities should answer this question. If your locality is currently certified for FY 2015, please only provide an update to questions 2 – 9 covering the changes that have occurred to your program since you submitted your application last year.***

1. Use Value Taxation

Does your locality participate in use value taxation pursuant to Va. Code § 58.1-3229 et seq.? If so, please provide a copy of your local ordinance that shows the date it was adopted by your governing body. If your local ordinance is online, it is acceptable to provide a link to the location provided it meets the above.

2. Adopted PDR ordinance or resolution

Please attach your local PDR ordinance or resolution as adopted. If your ranking system is not part of your ordinance or resolution, please include this as well.

3. Program goals and purposes

Please specify your program goals or purposes as outlined in your local PDR ordinance or resolution.

VDACS will be looking for clearly defined program goals or purposes that are supported by the program ordinance or resolution.

4. Action plan for education/outreach

Please provide information on how your program reaches out to farmers or landowners, public officials and the non-farming public.

VDACS will be looking for examples of efforts to educate various stakeholders in the community on the PDR program and other working farm and forest land preservation initiatives.

5. Easement valuation process

Please outline how your locality determines easement value.

VDACS will be looking for transparency and replicability in the easement valuation process.

6. Broader agricultural enhancement strategy

Please outline what additional strategies your locality is using to preserve working farm and forest land and how these various strategies work together. Examples include comprehensive land use plan agricultural zoning use value taxation agricultural and forestal districts agricultural economic development efforts farm transition efforts, etc.

VDACS will be looking to see that the PDR program is part of a broader strategy designed to preserve working farm and forest land.

7. Deed of easement

Please attach a copy of your deed of easement template.

*VDACS will be looking to see that the deed of easement is flexible enough to allow for future agricultural production and that it contains the appropriate components established in the model document. All easements funded by VDACS must be perpetual. **Please note: A more detailed review by VDACS of each individual easement will be required prior to closing.***

8. Monitoring and enforcement strategy

Please describe your monitoring and enforcement schedules or procedures.

VDACS will be looking to see that a clear strategy has been established outlining how the easement will be monitored and enforced.

9. Program evaluation mechanism

Please describe the process used to evaluate the effectiveness of your program and indicate the process for making changes or updates to your program based on this evaluation.

VDACS will be looking to see that the program has an evaluation mechanism and a process established for implementing evaluation findings.

Completed applications and any questions should be addressed to:

Andy Sorrell, AICP
Coordinator, Office of Farmland Preservation
Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
102 Governor Street
Richmond, VA 23219
Phone: (804) 786-1906
Fax: (804) 371-7679
Andrew.Sorrell@vdacs.virginia.gov